

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 10, 2011

The Honorable Rick Perry
Governor
State of Texas
PO Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Governor Perry:

We continue to seek your cooperation to ensure that new federal aid to education dollars actually aid Texas public schools. A review of pending appropriations bills in both the Texas State Senate and the State House is encouraging. The Senate bill appears to comply fully with the terms of federal law and the House bill complies during the first year of the biennium.

While there does not appear to be any policy reason for your failing to complete a proper application for federal funding, we continue to welcome any suggestions that you may have regarding how to accomplish our sole objective—seeing that the \$830 million in education dollars that we voted for actually increases resources available for Texas public education. This was what your staff was told during the November 18, 2010 meeting in Congressman Doggett's office and in subsequent follow-up calls with our offices and from Education Commissioner Robert Scott. Though we remain open to discussing any ways you recommend to get these dollars to Texas schools as soon as possible, repealing the amendment would only indicate that your desire is to use federal aid simply to replace state educational dollars as was done in 2009.

Please take the opportunity of your visit to Washington to file the application or to work with us to constructively help our schools to avoid closures and layoffs.

Sincerely,

